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cc
PATENT APPLICATION
Docket No: 14458.41

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Darcy W. Greep et al.

RECEIVED

77-3

Serial No.: 10/021,607

JUN 25 2003

) Art Unit
3739

Filed: December 12, 2001

TECHNOLOGY CENTER 18700

For: UTILIZATION OF A MULTI-CHARACTER
MATERIAL IN A SURFACE COATING OF AN
ELECTROSURGICAL INSTRUMENT

Examiner: Aaron F. Roane

TRANSMITTAL FOR SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for filing and pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 is a Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement.

37 CFR 1.97 (b)

— The Information Disclosure Statement submitted herewith is being filed within three months of the filing of a national application; within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 CFR 1.491 in an international application; or before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, whichever event occurs last.

37 CFR 1.97 (c)

x The Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement submitted herewith is being filed after three months of the filing of a national application, or the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 CFR 1.491 in an international application; or after the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, whichever occurred last but before the mailing date of either:

1. a final action under 37 CFR 1.113, or
2. a Notice of Allowance under 37 CFR 1.311,

whichever occurs first.

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Commissioner for Patents

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Also submitted herewith is:

a certification as specified in 37 CFR 1.97(e);

or

The fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p) for submission of a Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97(c).

Form PTO-1449 listing eight (8) references submitted for consideration.

Copies of eight (8) references listed on the Form PTO-1449.

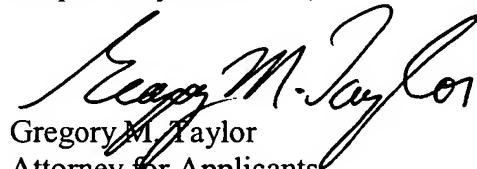
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of or any deficiency in the following fees associated with this communication, or to credit any overpayment thereof, to Deposit Account No. 23-3178. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

Any fee required in relation to filing of this letter or any documents transmitted therewith.

The submission fee set forth in 37 CFR § 1.17(p) in the event that 37 CFR § 1.97(c) applies and the Examiner is not satisfied that any Promptness Certificate submitted meets the requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e).

Dated this 18th day of June 2003.

Respectfully submitted,


Gregory M. Taylor
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 34,263



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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Docket No: 14458.41

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Examiner: Aaron F. Roane)

CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8

I hereby certify that the following documents are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date below.

- Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement
- Form PTO-1449 listing 8 references
- Copies of 8 references
- Transmittal for Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement
- Form PTO-2038 for \$180.00
- Postcard

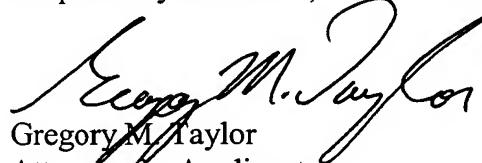
Dated this 18th day of June 2003.

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Respectfully submitted,


Gregory M. Taylor
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 34,263



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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE



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Examiner:

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)

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Sir:

Please find, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(1), the enclosed Form PTO-1449 which contains a list of all patents, publications, or other items that have come to the attention of one or more of the individuals designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c). While no representation is made that any of these references may be "prior art" within the meaning of that term under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 or 103, the enclosed list of references is disclosed so as to fully comply with the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56.

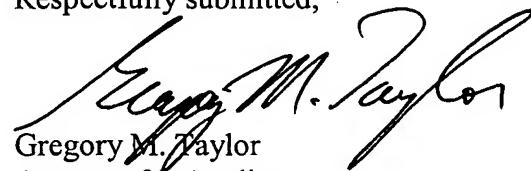
Moreover, while no representation is made that a specific search of office files or patent office records has been conducted or that no better art exists, the undersigned attorney of record believes that the enclosed art is the closest to the claimed invention (taken in its entirety) of which the undersigned is presently aware, and no art which is closer to the claimed invention (taken in its entirety) has been knowingly withheld.

Commissioner for Patents
Page 2

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, copies of the listed references or relevant portions thereof are also enclosed.

DATED this 18th day of June 2003.

Respectfully submitted,



Gregory M. Taylor
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 34,263

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